

SUMMARY OF THE WEATHER REPORTS FOR MARCH AND APRIL 1886.

The early portion of March was characterized by a very low barometric pressure in the Punjab and the adjacent parts of the country, but elsewhere it was much below the average. Though pressure rose steadily during the latter half of the month, the average of the whole month showed a slight deficiency over the greater portion of India and British Burma. In the North-Western Provinces the variations were irregular, and in Bengal there was a slight excess. In April the pressure was generally very nearly the average, the variations ranging slightly below the normal in Bombay, Bengal and Central India, and above it in all the other Provinces.

In March damp rain-bearing winds were more frequent than usual throughout the Upper Provinces, and there was a great excess of rain-fall over the whole of Northern India. In Sind and Central India also there was a slight excess; but little or no rain fell in any part of the Peninsula and less than the average amount in Ceylon. Snow fell on the lower ranges of the North-Western Himalaya on the 7th and 8th March, and again on the 1st April. On the latter date, there was a considerable fall of temperature in North-Western India and the mean temperature at Murree was not less than 10° below the normal. After this, however, the weather cleared, and any further rain was slight and fell at long intervals. In April there was a general absence of rain. Dry north-west winds continued to blow steadily over the whole of North-Western and Central India as far east as Behar. On the Malabar Coast also, the winds were from the north-west, sometimes north; and on the Coromandel Coast from between south and south-west, except along the Madras Coast and in Lower Bengal the humidity of the air was much below the average, more especially in Central India and Behar.

In March the temperature was everywhere more or less below the average, the depression being greatest in the Punjab, Rajputana and Sind, where it ranged between 2° and 4.5° .

In April the variations from the normal were generally small, and except in Bombay and Central India there was an excess of 1° to 3° , were everywhere within 1° of the average.

The following table shows the amount of rain and difference from the average during the months of March and April 1886 according to Districts as far as is indicated by the telegraphic reports. The first column shows the number of stations used to determine the average for the District.

Districts.	No. of Stations.	Average rain-fall in March.	Difference from the average in March 1886.	Average rain-fall in April.	Difference from the average in April 1886.
Punjab, West ..	7	1.52	+2.81	1.75	-1.04
Do East ..	4	1.45	+0.61	1.17	-1.09
North-Western Provinces, Trans-Gangetic ..	8	1.04	+1.44	0.60	-0.55
North-Western Provinces, Cis-Gangetic ..	3	0.34	+0.37	0.15	-0.15
Behar ..	2	0.36	+0.54	0.62	-0.62
Northern Bengal ..	2	1.34	+0.34	2.63	-1.57
Assam, Cachar ..	3	4.71	+1.24	9.43	-1.66
Lower Bengal, Chutia Nagapur ..	6	1.42	+3.00	2.79	-1.69
Orissa, (Northern Circar) ..	6	0.65	+1.40	1.11	-1.11
Central Provinces, South ..	7	0.41	+0.07	0.33	-0.33
Berar, Khandesh ..	2	0.42	-0.42	0.18	-0.18
Rajputana, Central India, Saugor and Nerbudda ..	7	0.18	+0.02	0.12	-0.11
Sind, Catch ..	4	0.17	+0.16	0.19	-0.19
Guzerat ..	3	0.04	-0.04	0.03	-0.03
Konkan ..	4	0.01	-0.01	0.11	-0.11
Decan, Hyderabad ..	5	0.43	-0.34	9.95	-0.62
Malabar ..	4	0.88	-0.85	2.24	-0.76
Mysore, Bellary ..	4	1.06	-0.58	1.78	-1.39
Karnatic ..	6	0.45	-0.04	1.30	-1.09
British Burma ..	6	0.13	+0.11	1.81	-1.72
Ceylon ..	1	5.60	-1.72	8.84	-1.60

Simla, the 10th April 1886.

SUMMARY OF THE WEATHER REPORTS FOR MAY 1886.

Pressure was more or less above the average during the 1st week, after which, a period of depression set in lasting for a few days, when the barometer again rose and remained slightly above the average till the 24th. In the last week, however, the pressure again fell below the normal.

On the mean of the whole month, the pressure was slightly above the average in the North-Western Provinces, Assam, Bengal and Orissa and below it elsewhere. The rain-fall returns show that rain fell in one part or another of Ceylon, Madras and Burma throughout the month. In Bombay there was no rain till the 16th, and then only a few drops at Sholapore; but on the 20th there was a rather heavy fall at Karwar and a few showers at two or three stations on the coast to the north, which were repeated till the close of the month. The winds on the Malabar Coast were generally westerly but light.

In Northern India such rain as occurred was sporadic and fell at intervals of several days, generally in local storms. The total rain-fall of the month was below the average in the Eastern Punjab, Assam, Cachar, Burma, Khandesh and Berar and there was little or no rain in Sind and Gujarat, everywhere else there was either an average quantity or an excess.

This excess was greatest in Ceylon and the Karnatic, more especially in the East Province, where the total fall was about three times the average amount. This was to a great extent due to the heavy rain accompanying the cyclonic storm, which crossed the Madras Coast from the Bay of Bengal on the morning of the 24th and passed across the Peninsula during that and the following day.

The temperature of Northern India was changeable; but, on the whole, the mean temperature of the month differed little from the average, being slightly below it in the North-Western Provinces, Bengal, Pegu and Madras and above it elsewhere. The greatest excess was about 4° in Sind. South-east winds were more frequent than usual in the Upper Provinces. On the Central Indian plateau and in the western half of the Peninsula, the winds were, on the whole, westerly, and on the coasts of the Bay of Bengal southerly. The humidity of the air was generally below the average in the Punjab and above in Southern India.

The following table shows the amount of rain and the difference from the average in the month of May 1886 according to Districts as far as is indicated by the telegraphic reports:—

Districts.	Average rain-fall in May 1886.	Difference from the average in May 1886.
Punjab, West	1.30	+0.03
Do East	1.82	+0.43
North-Western Provinces, Trans-Gangetic	1.57	+1.10
Do do Cis-Gangetic	0.43	+0.17
Behar	1.36	+0.17
Northern Bengal	7.14	+2.37
Assam, Cachar	14.32	+4.50
Lower Bengal, Chutia Nagapur	5.75	+1.25
Orissa, Northern Circars	2.79	+0.77
Central Provinces, South	0.65	+0.03
Berar, Khandesh	0.42	+0.14
Rajaputana, Central India, Saugor and Nerbudda	0.62	+0.53
Sind and Cutch	9.11	+0.11
Gujarat	0.24	+0.16
Konkan	0.97	+1.50
Decan, Hyderabad	1.80	+0.06
Malabar	7.34	+2.46
Mysore, Bellary	3.78	+1.74
Karnatic	2.37	+4.50
British Burma	10.62	+0.48
Ceylon	12.68	+9.46

Simla.
the 5th June 1886.

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